

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 008948

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR

SUBJECT: MORNING SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT REPORTS

1. UN: HIGHLIGHTS OF MIDDLE EAST DEBATE

USUN REPORTS THE ARAB DRAFTING GROUP IS CONSIDERING THE
INTRODUCTION OF TWO RESOLUTIONS:

--A SYRIAN DRAFT ON PALESTINE WHICH REPORTEDLY WOULD
PROVOKE AT LEAST ONE VETO AND HAS THEREFORE PRODUCED
GROWING INTEREST IN

--A THREE-PART EGYPTIAN RESOLUTION, CONSIDERED "MODER-
ATE" ENOUGH TO PASS.

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THE MOST SIGNIFICANT ELEMENT OF THE DEBATE HAS BEEN THE SIX POINTS DESCRIBED BY EGYPTIAN AMBASSADOR MEGUID AS ESSENTIAL FOR A PERMANENT PEACE:

--ACHIEVEMENT OF PALESTINIAN NATIONAL RIGHTS.

--CREATION OF A PALESTINIAN NATIONAL ENTITY IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PRINCIPLE OF SELF-DETERMINATION.

--TOTAL ISRAELI WITHDRAWAL FROM TERRITORIES OCCUPIED IN 1967.

--RECOGNITION THAT GENEVA IS THE PROPER NEGOTIATING FORUM AND THE SC IS NO SUBSTITUTE.

--RESUMPTION OF THE GENEVA CONFERENCE WITH PLO PARTICIPATION.

--SC SUPPORT IN A CALL FOR RECONVENING AT GENEVA.
(CONFIDENTIAL) USUN 104, 1/13.)

2. BRITAIN'S STRAINED RELATIONS WITH ICELAND

A SOURCE IN THE FOREIGN AND COMMONWEALTH OFFICE BELIEVES THAT A BREAK IN DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH BRITAIN IS A MORE IMMEDIATE THREAT THAN ICELAND'S WITHDRAWAL FROM NATO. IN ICELAND, LEADERS FROM BOTH COALITION PARTIES PREDICTED THAT DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH BRITAIN WOULD BE SEVERED JANUARY 14 OR 15. (CONFIDENTIAL) LONDON 563 AND (UNCLASSIFIED) REYKJAVIK 67, 1/13.)

3. EGYPT CALLS FOR ACTION ON LEBANON SITUATION

HEAVY FIGHTING IS REPORTED IN BEIRUT AND ITS SUBURBS JANUARY 14 AS THE SITUATION CONTINUES TO DETERIORATE. MEANWHILE, EGYPTIAN FOREIGN MINISTER FAHMY, IN A RADIO INTERVIEW, TOLD THE NATION THAT PRESIDENT SADAT ADVOCATES RAPID AND SPECIFIC ARAB LEAGUE ACTION TO "LIQUIDATE THE LEBANESE CRISIS" AND AVOID A "CLIMATE OF FOREIGN INTERVENTION AND
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CONSPIRATORIAL AMBITION." (CONFIDENTIAL) CAIRO 436, 1/13 AND BEIRUT 401, 1/14.) KISSINGER

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